

Landscape and Descriptions of the Computing Disciplines

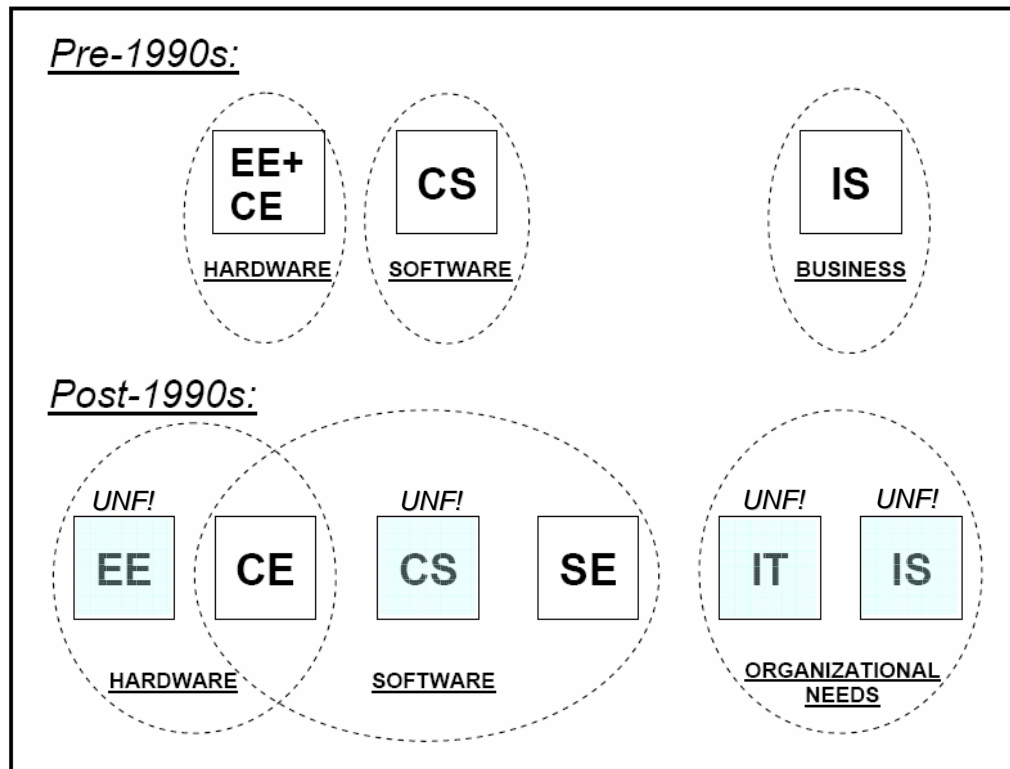
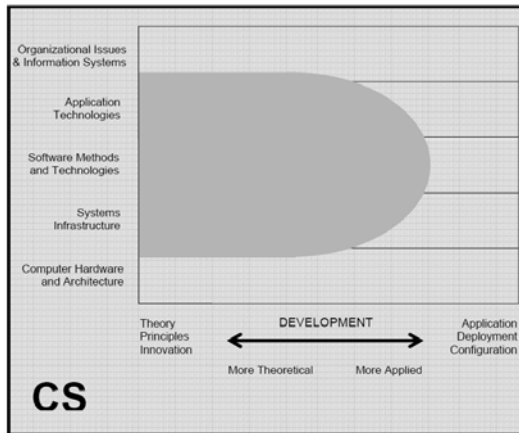


Figure 2.1. Harder choices: How the disciplines might appear to prospective students.

- *Computer scientists* face expectations that range from theoretical work to software development.
- *Information systems specialists* should be able to analyze information requirements and business processes and be able specify and design systems that are aligned with organizational goals.
- *Information technology specialists* face high expectations with respect to the planning, implementation, configuration, and maintenance of an organization's computing infrastructure.

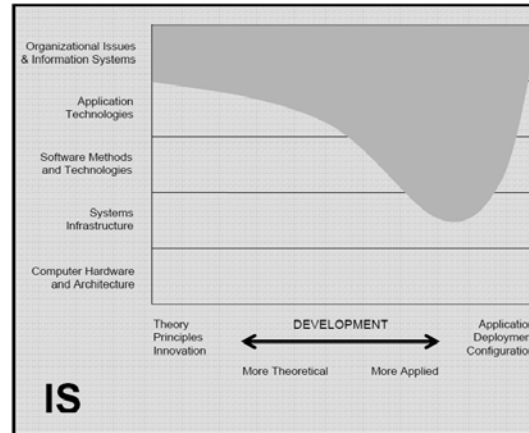
CIS Professionals... *make unbelievable things happen!*



Computer Science

Computer Scientists:

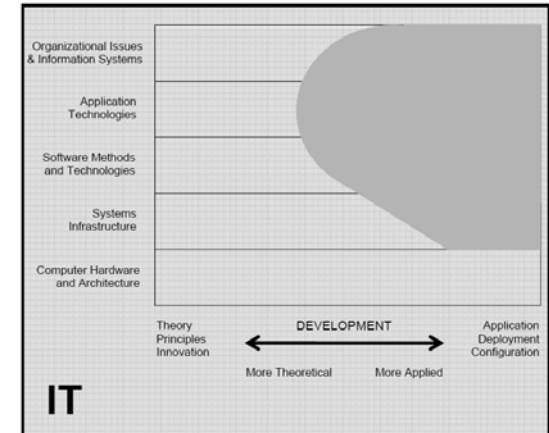
- design and develop all types of software, from systems infrastructure (operating systems, communications programs, etc.) to application technologies (web browsers, databases, search engines, etc.)
- create these capabilities, but they do not manage the deployment of them.
- do not help people to select computing products, nor tailor products to organizational needs



Information Systems

Information Systems specialists:

- are concerned with the relationship between information systems and the organizations they serve
- are involved in system deployment and configuration and training users.
- tailor application technologies (especially databases) to the needs of the enterprise
- often develop systems that utilize other software products to suit their organizations' needs for information.



Information Technology

Information Technology specialists:

- focus on the application, deployment, and configuration needs of organizations and people over a wide spectrum.
- has some overlap with IS, but IT people have a special focus on satisfying human needs that arise from computing technology.
- often develop the web-enabled digital technologies organizations use for a broad mix of informational purposes